

# BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY IN UTAH AND IDAHO

THE beet sugar industry in Utah and Idaho for the year 1910, will show a considerable falling off from the year previous, due to two causes: First, the unprecedented dry spell during the spring and summer, which affected the tonnage in all the districts; second, a reduction in the number of acres planted in beets owing to the high prices farmers were able to obtain for other products, to which they gave the preference.

As an offset to the beet shortage, though only a partial one, the long open fall has enabled the beets to ripen and gain in saccharine contents, so that the sugar yield of the two states, while still considerably below that of 1909, will reach a fairly satisfactory total. The runs of the factories owned by the three companies are not yet concluded, but an advance estimate states that the sugar output for the year will reach 70,000,000 pounds for the Utah-Idaho Co.; for the Amalgamated Sugar Co., approximately 26,000,000 pounds, and for the Lewiston Sugar Co., about 11,000,000 pounds, a total for the three companies of approximately 107,000,000 pounds, of which 28,000,000 pounds will be produced in Idaho and 79,000,000 pounds in Utah.

The total number of tons of beets grown in the two states was 280,000 for the Utah-Idaho Sugar Co., 107,000 for the Amalgamated, and 45,000 for the Lewiston, a total of 432,000 tons, for which the farmers of the two states were paid in October, November and December approximately \$2,000,000.00. The outlay of the factories was much more, for freights, unloading and shrinkage.

In addition, the three companies will have paid to employees for the season, a sum exceeding half a million dollars, to say nothing of the large amounts paid for freight, coal, coke, supplies, repairs, etc.

For the coming year the outlook for the beet sugar industry is more hopeful. The beet growers have been accorded an advance of 25 cents per ton over last year's prices, on beets containing 15 per cent sugar contents, and a large increase in acreage is already assured in most of the fields. At least 60,000 tons, mostly grown on new lands, are expected for the new Sevier county factory.

The general outlook the country over, is also reassuring. The vast proportions which the beet sugar industry has assumed, as shown by the recent report of Secy. of Agriculture Wilson, puts it in a position where it is bound to be carefully considered in any revision of the tariff. The fact that four new factories are now being erected in different parts of the country, indicates the confidence felt by sugar people in the future of the industry. Michigan leads all other states this year in sugar production, for the first time, with a total of 266,000,000 pounds.

While the suits planted by the government have had the effect of depressing the stocks of the sugar companies whose stockholders are numerous, the officers of these companies say that whatever the outcome of the litigation in the east, the local concerns can not be seriously affected and that the culture of beets and the manufacture of sugar will go on uninterruptedly.

## LEHI STILL LEADS

THE Lehi factory, writes the correspondent of The New York, with-out doubt, had the most successful season of any factory operating in the intermountain country, and taking into consideration the extreme dryness of the spring and summer, the tonnage per acre has averaged up much better than was anticipated. About 167,000 tons of beets have been delivered this season, for which the beet raisers received about \$400,000. This large amount of money has gone into the hands of about 1,000 farmers of Salt Lake, Utah, Wasatch, Sanpete and Sevier counties and has been a great factor in keeping up the general prosperity. In fact, the farmers could not have done without their beet money this year, as other crops were light and cattle and sheep prices down.

To the farmer who properly tends his crop and makes his land well, it is always his most satisfactory crop as he is sure of the money if he delivers the beets. Among the many successful farmers growing beets for the Lehi factory may be mentioned the following:

Name	Acres Planted	Tons Beets
Robert E. Gardner	18½	438
Ralph Jenkins	4	140
Eugene Briggs	4	82
H. Z. Harrison	1½	158
Jacob Cox	2	242
Don Lovelidge	10½	173½

Name	Acres Planted	Tons Beets
B. G. Webb	6	142½
Edward Karren	7	166
Ellis Peterson	7	122
S. J. Green	12	214
M. H. Knudson	5	96
Brigham Gardner	4	81
Fred Hill	5	98
Will E. Irons	21½	422
Andrew Anderson	30	516
J. B. Hansen	10½	216
P. M. Lindgreen	8½	158
O. Olson	6	108

If all beet growers would do as these farmers have done—properly prepare their land, mature it well even if they had to buy the fertilizer and watch their crop carefully during the growing season, keeping all weeds out and watering and especially cutting the same when most needed, they would be as successful. Lehi and other towns have beet raisers who from year to year get from 20 to 25 tons of beets per acre off their land, which pays exceptionally well. Such results are obtained through following the most careful methods.

The beet farmers get their beets up in fine shape this fall, which was an ideal one for harvesting and are now busy putting their land into shape for another year. The indications are that the acreage for next year will be much larger than this.

The Lehi factory and cutting stations at Provo and Spanish Fork, 30 and will be through about Jan. 5. The campaign has been most successful, and about 26,000,000 pounds of sugar will be produced.

## Results in the Fields Around Garland

GEORGE AUSTIN, agricultural superintendent of the Utah-Idaho Sugar company, for the Utah fields, in speaking of the results in the Garland district, said there was a falling off in the tonnage from last year of about 20 per cent, one-half of which was due to short acreage, and the other half to the lessened yield per acre, due to the drought and the dry spring. The beets, however, had generally been of good quality.

Regarding the outlook for next year he said the farmers would be offered an increase of 25c per ton, provided they would increase their acreage 20 per cent and furnish beets running 15 per cent in sugar contents. With this incentive he felt that there ought to be good results, but it was somewhat early yet to speak, as the agents were just beginning to make contracts.

## Big Acreage for New Sevier County Plant

THE acreage for the new plant of the Utah-Idaho Sugar company to be erected in the Sevier valley, is now nearly all contracted for, and the figures indicate that if nothing unforeseen occurs, the factory will have all it can handle the beets from the start. The farmers of the valley were required to guarantee at least 6,000 acres for a term of five years, but as the figures below indicate, the farmers have been better than their word.

Following is the list of towns where the beets will be grown for the Sevier factory next year, with the number of acres contracted for in each:

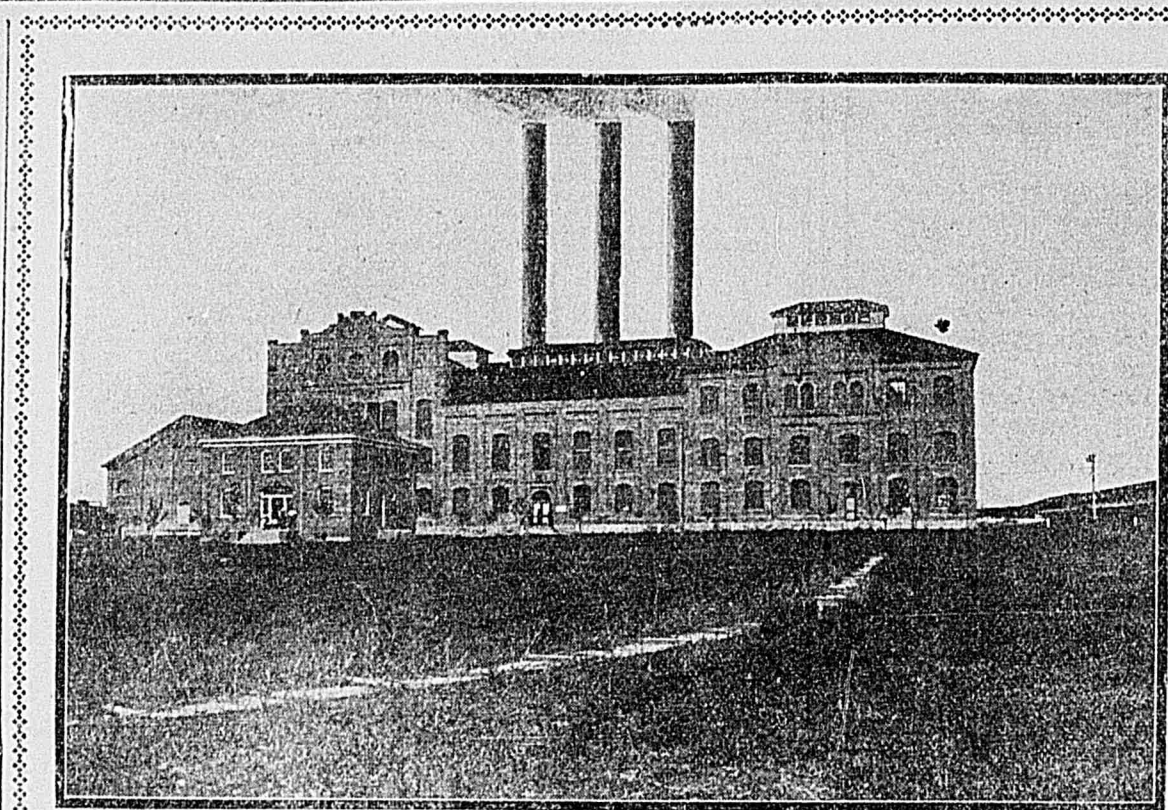
Town	Acres Contracted
Alton	1,282
Richfield	1,029

## Big Sugar Beet Figures in Weber County

OGDEN, Dec. 16.—One of the most substantial industries in this section is that of beet sugar manufacturing and the Ogden district seems to

be especially favored as a locality ideal for the growing of the beets.

In Weber county alone, last year, there were harvested over 65,000 tons



THE NEW SUGAR PLANT IN SEVIER COUNTY.

This factory will be constructed by the Utah-Idaho Sugar company between Elsinore and Monroe, and work on it has already begun. It will be finished in time to handle next season's crop of beets, will have a capacity of 500 tons of beets daily, and will cost \$500,000. Besides this plant, there are three others in course of erection throughout the country at the present time, one at Anaheim, Cal., capacity 600 tons, one at Holly, Cal., capacity 750 tons, and one at Fallon, Nev., capacity 500 tons.

of beets from which the Ogden factory manufactured over 13,000,000 pounds of the highest grade granulated sugar. For this remarkable yield, the Amalgamated Sugar company returned to the farmers of Weber county no less than \$300,000. This amount is considerably above the average yearly price, and for the 19 of the 20 years that the local factory has been running the company has paid out \$3,000,000 or an average of \$250,000 a year.

Some interesting statistics were recently compiled with a view of giving the casual reader some idea of the quantity of beets and sugar involved in the development of the industry in Weber county, since the starting of the Ogden factory.

More than a hundred million pounds of sugar have been manufactured during the past 11 years at Ogden, a quantity far beyond the comprehension of the human mind. It is estimated that this vast bulk of sugar, if gathered together, would build a monument 50 feet square at the base and a thousand feet high—the approximate height of Elbrus, the highest peak of the Caucasus mountains. The factory records also show that over 500,000 tons of beets have been gathered from the fields of Weber county farmers since the establishment of the plant, or one billion pounds.

## Ogden, Logan and Lewiston Districts

MR. JOE FRINGEE, field superintendent of the Amalgamated Sugar company, states that the season of 1910 has been quite successful, considering the unusually dry year, the average tonnage was a decrease over the season of 1909 the average yield being 12 tons per acre as against 15 tons for the previous season.

In the Ogden factory district, some difference as to the price of beets is responsible for a smaller acreage during the season, but the present outlook for 1911 indicates that it will be the banner year in the history of the company. Very few differences with the farmers existed in the Logan and Lewiston districts, and at the present time the beet growers there seem to be well satisfied with the new contract recently issued by the company which accords a material increase over previous seasons.

Mr. Fringree feels that the beet raisers would be able to materially in-

crease their revenue if greater efforts were put forth in specializing in a beet of higher per cent sugar instead of attempting to raise mammoth crops as at present. With a high per cent beet and the sliding scale contract, such as is given by other sugar companies, the farmers would very easily add to their profits and the man who put forth the greatest effort would earn the highest increase. The sugar output in Ogden will be about 13,000,000 pounds.

Representing the beet growers of Utah districts of the Amalgamated company for the season were as follows:

Name	Acres Planted	Average Tons Per Acre
George Heslop	15	12
J. R. McFarland	18	16
Jacob B. Gibson	20	14
J. T. Lowe	25	15
L. Sween	40	11
N. R. Montgomery	8	16
Charles Wilson	12	19
James Mason	8	25

throughout the district, but the following are among the leaders.

Name	Acres Planted	Average Tons
Geo. A. Bean, Parker	14	15
C. H. Barnes, Parker	18	15
W. L. Flint, Sr., Parker	5	16
R. Furoda, Thornton	19	15½
Mrs. W. E. Garner, Sugar	1	15½
Ira Howard, Teton	5	16
Chas. Jones, Hibbard	12	15½
C. H. Karlson, Parker	2	15
A. D. Miller, Parker	19	18
A. D. Miller, Parker	5	20
Chas. Stacey, Hibbard	10	14
S. Saito, Rexburg	40	14
Factory Farm, Sugar	67	15
Mrs. M. Boel, Winder	4	16

## Advance in Beet Prices

THE Idaho Falls correspondent of The News writes: Regarding the proposed raise in the price of beets by the Utah-Idaho Sugar company for the districts of Blackfoot, Sugar City and Idaho Falls, I will say that it is conditional, and lies entirely with the farmer as to whether he shall receive the extra 25 cents, or 55 per cent, or not. The company asks an increase in acreage of from 20 to 25 per cent, and a strict adherence to the sliding scale, which is provided for in the contracts for the year 1911. This contract provides for paying \$5 per ton for beets carrying 15 per cent saccharine matter and over, \$4.75 for those carrying 14 per cent, \$4.50 for 13 per cent and \$4.25 for those carrying 12 per cent. This rule, the company feels will be just and equitable to all, and give the farmer who properly prepares his land and cultivates his beets during the growing season, the benefit of the advanced price. It also acts as a stimulus to the farmer with poor land to encourage him to improve the same by bringing his land into a higher state of cultivation. The sugar company agents are now out among the farmers with these contracts containing the sliding scale, with 55 per cent as the maximum price, and the plan is being received very favorably. From present indications the company will experience no difficulty in getting the required acreage to fully stock the Blackfoot, Sugar City and Idaho Falls mills for 1911.

Some of the leading results obtained among the beet growers in Cache valley are as follows:

Name	Acres Planted	Tons Beets
Amson Live Stock Co.	175	1,871
N. S. Hanson	20	302
H. C. Henniger	20	255
James Nelson	20	304
Henry E. Haney	25	495
Andrew Hoyer	40	300
J. W. D. Huxzen	25	500
William L. Winn	20	400

## In Cache Valley

IN the Logan and Lewiston sugar beet districts over 1,500 farmers planted beets during the year. Over 90,000 tons of beets were grown for which the farmers received about \$400,000, over 400 men were given employment in the two factories, while the crop was being worked up. The Logan factory will turn out about 11,000,000 pounds of sugar and the Lewiston approximately 11,000,000 pounds, beets having fallen from 20 to 12 tons at Ogden.

Mr. Fringree feels that the beet raisers would be able to materially in-

## Results in Idaho, Better Outlook for 1911

MR. MARK AUSTIN of Sugar City, the Utah-Idaho Sugar company's superintendent for the Idaho field, in an interview prepared for the Christmas News, says:

When the beet business was first introduced in this section of the country, the price of all farm products was very low, but they increased a little from year to year, until about two years ago last summer, at which time all kinds of farm products almost doubled in price in one year, and remained so until last spring, since which time they have been gradually going down until they have fallen from 30 to 40 per cent. The extreme high prices of farm products during the last two years, with the encouraging reports sent out by the agricultural department in Washington that they were quite likely to continue so for a number of years, caused many of the farmers throughout Idaho to devote all their available land to the raising of grain, especially wheat, which was bringing about \$1 per bushel. On good land, where farmers had been growing sugar beets, it was discovered that a good farmer could get 10 bushels per acre with such prices that would give a very good net profit. This caused many of our beet growers to plant a great deal of beet land into grain. Not only did the farmers, during these two years, secure high prices, but they also secured tremendous yields, as the seasons were especially adapted to grain.

At the opening of the harvest and marketing of the crops this year, prices were much lower, and have continued to drop until they have reached a rather low price, wheat being about 60 cents per bushel, and about 25 cents per bushel and hay about \$5 per ton.

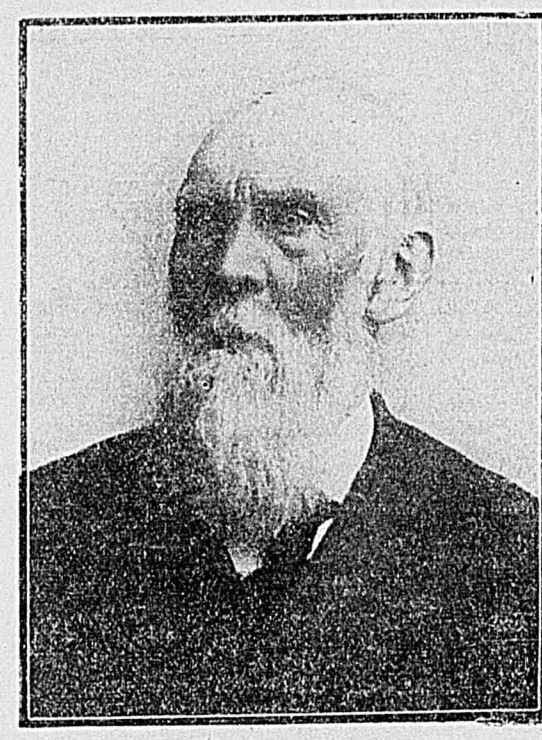
The yield of the grain this year is 25 per cent shorter per acre than the previous years; therefore, the farmers are now beginning to realize that the beet crop is the most suitable crop, having a fixed, profitable market value. I am pleased to say that many of the farmers are turning their attention more extensively to beet culture for the coming season than they have done for the past two years in Fremont county, and the indications are that a much larger crop will be planted this coming season than there was the past season. There is also a better feeling toward beet culture now, owing to the increase in prices offered by the sugar company and the growing understanding of what the factories have done to enhance the value of the farmers' lands. The farmers will now, no doubt, lay their plans to devote a portion of their farm to the raising of sugar beets, such and every year in a more business-like way than heretofore, as they know exactly what they will get for the crop when it is harvested, the benefit it is to the farmer to rotate their crops, and the stimulating effect upon the price of all other crops.

There is no doubt, that the farmers of this section will, as fast as possible, get their lands in shape to raise profitable crops of beets from year to year, as has been done by the successful growers ever since the factory was built. Those who have selected good soil, made the necessary and proper preparation, and given the crop the proper care, are those who have realized the profit, as will be shown by the results that have been obtained even this year, when the season was not very favorable for growing crops. Practically as good results were obtained by a number of other growers

## Mormons, the Beet Sugar Pioneers —Phillip De La Mare's Labors

IT is a fact not generally known, that the first experiments in beet sugar culture in the United States were made by the Mormons in 1851. The man who took the most prominent part in bringing out the machinery was Phillip De La Mare, who is still living in Tooele City. He was baptized by W. C. Dunbar in England in 1819, and at the request of Elder John Taylor, who was then filling a mission in Europe, he went with him to France to investigate the beet sugar industry. Elder Taylor having been especially instructed by President Brigham Young to keep on the lookout for industries that would be suitable for the soil of Utah. Elders Taylor and De La Mare investigated the growth of sugar beets, first in the

Mr. De La Mare determined to surmount the obstacles, and meeting Charles H. Perry, a non-Mormon, he purchased 40 big Santa Fe wagons, also obtaining a large amount of flour, and the company set out again. The flour later proved to be filled with plaster-of-paris, and had to be thrown away. The caravan of machinery, now increased by a number of emigrant families, set out from Ft. Leavenworth in July, 1852. The wagons were of oxen, and each wagon carried 5,000 to 9,000 pounds of iron and machinery. At the mouth of the Sweet Water river, the first snow storm was encountered; many of the cattle stampeded and were lost. The food ran low, and they were forced to kill some of the remaining cattle.



PHILLIP DE LA MARE, Who Brought Sugar Beet Machinery to Utah 59 Years Ago.

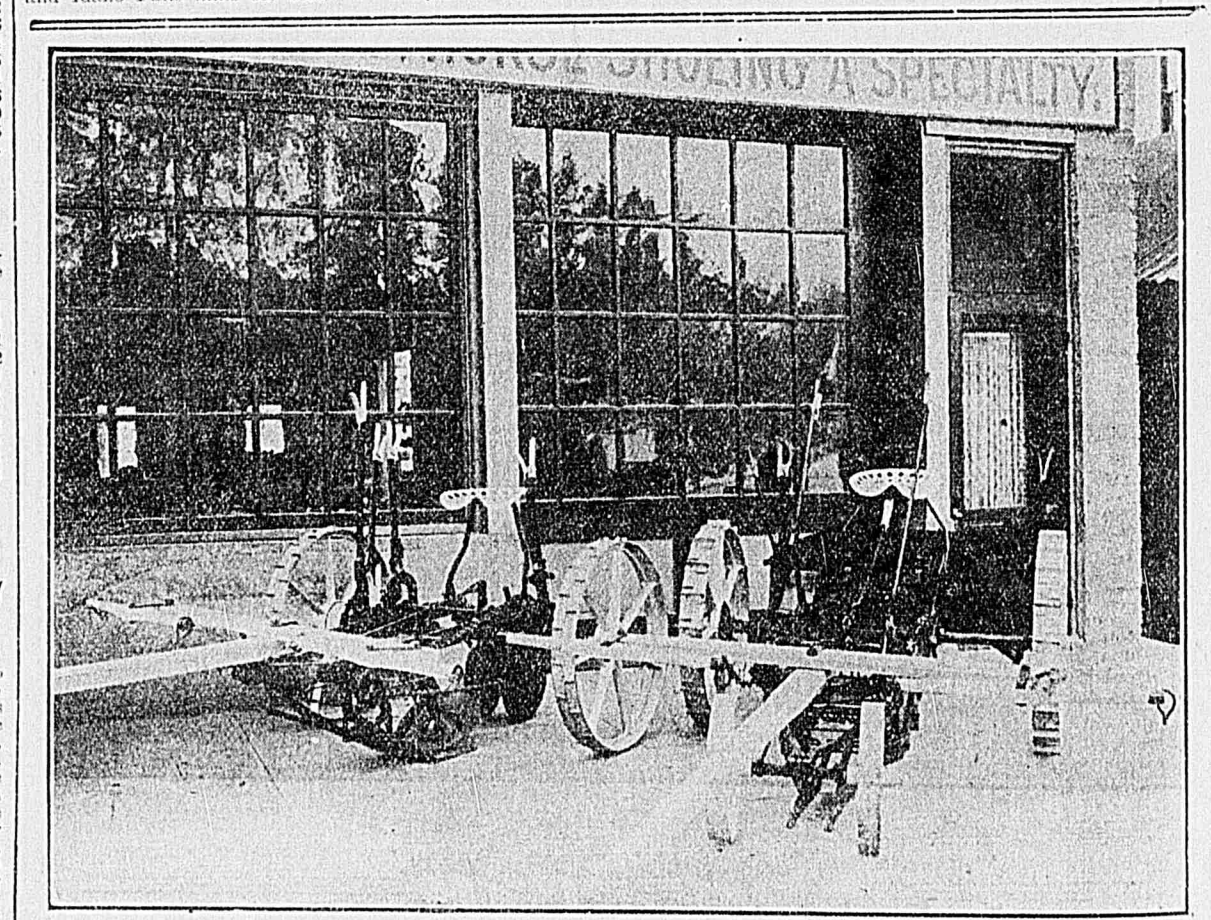
village of Aris, a little town in northern France. They were so sanguine, that they went immediately to England to raise the necessary capital from among the wealthy church members. Jno. W. Coward, a salt dealer, subscribed \$1,000, Captain Russell, a ship builder, agreed to contribute \$9,000. Mr. Collins, then a boot and shoe dealer in Liverpool, for whom President Jno. R. Winder was working when he first learned of Mormonism, contributed \$1,000. The first subscription of \$1,000 was made by Mr. De La Mare himself. The company, whose capitalization was \$50,000, began under the name of the Deseret Manufacturing company. Elders Taylor and De La Mare then proceeded to purchase the machinery, and prepare it for shipment to Utah. It was bought from Fauser & Co. in the fall of 1851. On Jan. 16, 1852, Elder De La Mare left Liverpool for St. Louis, Mo., the machinery following the next month with Elders Elias Morris, L. John Nuttall, Wm. Nuttall, and Jos. Nuttall in charge. They all met in St. Louis, where Mr. De La Mare had prepared wagons ready to load the machinery for the great journey across the plains; from the time it left St. Louis until the arrival in Utah he was in complete charge. His wife and three children accompanied him; on the way the little ones were seized with cholera, one of them dying and being buried on the plains.

The fifty wagons, on which the machinery was loaded, proved to be useless, breaking down under the weight of the machinery, and they were mostly given away to poor families on their way to Utah. The situation was desperate, but with characteristic energy,

came out to meet them. At Ft. Bridger again assistance was received. A. O. Smoot and a party coming from Salt Lake with a load of flour, which at that time sold at \$50 a hundred pounds. On reaching Bear River, the snow was so deep that several of the large boilers had to be left behind, but they were brought to the valley the next spring. In the latter part of November, 1852, the party finally came to rest in Salt Lake, nearly six months having been spent in traveling a distance of 1,300 miles.

The reasons why the beet sugar industry was not successful at that time is familiar history. No means had been provided for getting rid of the potash and the alkalinities in the beets, and the methods then prevailing of using charcoal made from the bones of animals were equally difficult to supply at such a remote distance from the centers of trade. Five hundred bushels of beet sugar seed were brought here with the machinery, and planted. The beets grew well, but it was found impossible to granulate the sugar obtained. The machinery was used for other purposes, parts of it being kept in Provo, and other parts taken to the old so-called sugar factory at Twelfth South and Eleventh East. The name given that locality for so many years, Sugar House, had its origin from the early attempts in beet sugar manufacture.

The fact, however, remains that the enterprise was the first one devoted to beet sugar culture ever organized in America, and the beet sugar machinery, brought over the ocean, by the Mississippi and across the plains by a company of Mormon elders, was the first ever shipped into the new world.



THE BRIGGS BEET HARVESTER

After more than ten years of incessant labor Frank Briggs claims he has at last solved the beet harvesting problem. Of recent years labor has been scarce on farms that some sugar-beet growers have become somewhat discouraged, but Mr. Briggs' machine will greatly increase the profit in beet raising.

Some weeks ago one was seen in successful operation on the farm of E. T. Walton, at First West and Fourteenth South Street. Mr. Walton said: "If the machine will work on my land, they will work anywhere in the country, for my land is sticky, black clay."

The topper and the puller were combined heretofore, but they are in two parts on Mr. Walton's farm. The topper, which goes first up the row of beets, resembles in general form a moving machine, except that the knife, a revolving disk in the shape of a plate, is directly under the tongue. The disk is adjusted so that it is only slightly tilted as it strikes each beet. Just in front of this disk a knife is a solid sliding shoe which rises or falls in accordance with a high or low beet. The shoe raises the knife, which on the principle of a carpenter's plane, shaves the tops off each beet. The digger, which is drawn by two horses after the topper, consists of two small pulley points placed the width of a beet apart. The beets rise up onto a carrier into a basket at the rear, from which they are dumped into piles. The carrier can be continued and the beets dumped into a wagon running alongside.

When it is considered that present practice requires the use of a single lifter, man and team to pass twice across each row, then pull each separate beet by hand, shake the clinging soil from it, throw it into a pile, pick up each beet and hack the top off, and then haul it into a pile for loading—all of which is now accomplished by one man driving a team—the advantage of the Briggs' machine is apparent.

With good driving the Briggs machine, it is said, will miss only about one beet in 20—that is, it is necessary to take off a leaf here and there, requiring only a few minutes for a whole row. It is astonishing, however, how cleverly it will jump up to take the top off a beet four inches from the ground and then immediately hob down to get one almost covered with earth. It is probable that the machine will be manufactured in Salt Lake City. The machine digs and tops three acres a day.

E. Kenyon, the manager of the company has his office at 41 Ziegler block, Spokane, Wash.